Department. In suitable cases, the Commission may also advise the concerned authorities to move applications under the Criminal Law Amendment Act Ordinance, 1944 for confiscation of ill gotten money. While the Commission will not entertain anonymous or pseudonymous complaints, the identity of informants will not be disclosed if they so desire. The informants would also be eligible for suitable rewards directly from the Central Bureau of Investigation/ Income Tax Department under their respective schemes wherein those who give information leading to successful unearthing of black money and benami properties, are suitably rewarded. The scheme also cautions the complainants against furnishing information which they know or believe to be false attracting provision of Section 182 of Indian Penal Code. This according to the Commission, will act as a deterrent to corruption apart from ensuring that only genuine cases are reported.

Setting up of Commission to retrench surplus staff

†3362. CHAUDHARY CHUNNI LAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted any Commission with an objective to take step towards retrenchment of surplus staff in Government departments;

(b) if so, the terms thereof alongwith the time frame within which the Commission will submit its reports on that matter; and

(c) the total number of staff at present in Central Government departments and the shortage thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) No Commission has been set up by the Government with a specific objective to take steps for retrenchment of surplus staff in Central Government departments. However, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) have set up an Expenditure Reforms Commission by a Resolution dated 28 February, 2000 under the Chairmanship of Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan, former Finance Secretary. The terms of reference of the Commission are, inter alia, to suggest a road map for reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of the Central Government, to review

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the adquacy of staffing under Central Government ministries, attached offices and institutions and suggest measures for rationalizing the staff and cadres of different services. The Commission is expected to submit its final report within a period of one year.

(c) As per the information available with the Ministry of Finance, the number of sanctioned posts of the Central Government regular employees (civilian) as on 31 March, 1999 was 40,67,049 against which the estimated number of employees in position on that date was 37,29,274, showing a shortfall of 3,37,775.

Employees engaged in anti-national activities

3363. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to get rid of employees who are engaged in anti-national activities; and

(b) if so, the exemplary dismissal proposed against the Indian Airlines Employees involved in smuggling of 10.261 kg. gold worth Rs. 46.892 lakhs in June, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government servants taking part in anti-national activities are liable to disciplinary action under the relevant service rules. Various penalties have been prescribed in the rules and these include removal/dismissal from service.

(b) It has been reported by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, New Delhi, that on 27th June, 2000, a Foreman of the Indian Airlines retrieved a packet containing 44 gold biscuits of 10 tolas each totally weighing 5.130 kgs from one of the rear toilets of a aircraft which operated flight IC-882 (Sharjah-Dehli) in the morning of 27th June, 2000 while the aircraft was parked at domestic airport after operating its international flight. Subsequently, the employee handed over these biscuits to an outsider. On further interrogation, the officers of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence recovered another packet containing 44 gold biscuits concealed in the rear toilet of the said aircraft. The employee was arrested by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and is in judicial